What is claimed is;

1. A method of distinguishing halftone pixels from non-halftone pixels in pixels making up an image according to a predetermined algorithm based on a result of edge detection for determining whether the pixels are edge pixels, wherein the improvement comprises that

the pixels which have been determined to be non-halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm, are continuous to the pixels determined to be halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm including those which have been redetermined to be halftone pixels and are not lower than a predetermined threshold density in density are all redetermined to be halftone pixels.

2. A method of distinguishing halftone pixels from non-halftone pixels in pixels making up an image according to a predetermined algorithm based on a result of edge detection for determining whether the pixels are edge pixels, wherein the improvement comprises that

each of the pixels which have been determined to be non-halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm and are not lower than a predetermined threshold density in density is redetermined to be a halftone pixel when the number of pixels which have been determined to be halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm including those which have been redetermined to be halftone pixels in a predetermined region including therein the pixel is larger than a predetermined

threshold number, the pixel to be determined whether it is redetermined to be a halftone pixel being shifted in sequence.

3. An apparatus for distinguishing halftone pixels from non-halftone pixels in pixels making up an image according to a predetermined algorithm based on a result of edge detection for determining whether the pixels are edge pixels and is characterized by having

a redetermination means which redetermines to be halftone pixels the pixels which have been determined to be non-halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm, are continuous to the pixels determined to be halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm including those which have been redetermined to be halftone pixels and are not lower than a predetermined threshold density in density.

4. An apparatus for distinguishing halftone pixels from non-halftone pixels in pixels making up an image according to a predetermined algorithm based on a result of edge detection for determining whether the pixels are edge pixels, and is characterized by having

a redetermination means which redetermines to be a halftone pixel each of the pixels which have been determined to be non-halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm and are not lower than a predetermined threshold density in density when the number of pixels which have been determined to be halftone pixels according to said predetermined algorithm including those which have been redetermined to be

halftone pixels in a predetermined region including therein the pixel is larger than a predetermined threshold number, the pixel to be determined whether it is redetermined to be a halftone pixel being shifted in sequence.